

THE COURIER

Quarterly Publication of the Bethel Historical Society's Regional History Center
Volume 29, Number 3 (Fall 2005)

40th Annual Meeting Focuses on Barns

The 40th annual meeting on September 8 was held on Society Executive Director Stan Howe's side lawn in front of his barn. Kirk F. Mohney, Assistant Director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, was the featured speaker in place of Christi Mitchell, architectural historian of the Commission, who was unable to be present due to a back injury. In a slide lecture, Mohney discussed Maine barns and other outbuildings. He took a broad look at how agriculture and settlement patterns developed throughout the area and how those patterns changed over time. He then focused on images of Maine barns in art and poetry and explored the theme of how together they created and reinforced idealized conceptions of Maine as a rural state. This lecture was the first of a series scheduled in connection with the Smithsonian Institution's "Barn Again! Celebrating an American Icon" exhibition that was opened to the public in the Society's Dr. Moses Mason House exhibit hall.

A social hour, chicken barbecue and time to visit the exhibit preceded the annual meeting and lecture portion of the program. A special "guest" was "Piglet" from Pooh Corner Farm on hand to emphasize the barn and farm theme of the meeting.

During the 40th annual meeting Vice President Allen Cressy, who presided in the absence of the president Arlan Jodrey, pointed out that the 2004 meeting was reported in *The Courier* and announced that the annual financial report for 2004 would appear in *The Courier* when it becomes available later in the year. A moment of silence was announced for all members who have died since the last annual meeting. Those remembered were Gilman Page, Muriel Whitney, Virginia Hood, Wilma Gorman, Edna Curtis, Thomas Ford, Stanley Lord, Arthur Gilbert, Sue Wight, Filmore Clough, Gwilym Roberts, David Glascock, Hope Tibbetts, and William Hastings, Sr.

Mr. Cressy then reviewed some of the highlights since the last annual meeting: a record 107 new individual members and 6 new business/corporate members added to the rolls, over seventy donations to the research library and museum collection, the hosting of a number of successful special events, sponsorship of an antiquarian supper, the openings of the Oxford County, "Newry at 200" and the Smithsonian "Barn Again! Celebrating an American Icon" exhibits. The Society also sponsored two lectures on Oxford County

(continued on page 2)



Henry M. Dunham

"Like Heaven to Me"

**Henry Morton Dunham and
Maine's Rangeley Lakes Region**

Except for his times in Europe, Henry Morton Dunham, organist, educator and composer, and his family spent every summer at Mountain View on the Upper Rangeley Lake. Describing his cottage and its surroundings as "a heavenly spot," Dunham continued his musical activities in a guide's house where he composed and experimented on a pedal piano sent up from Boston.

Born the oldest of three sons to Isaac and Augusta Dunham in what is today Brockton, MA, 27 July 1853, he early showed an aptitude for music. In 1872, his parents enrolled him in the New England Conservatory, recently founded in Boston. From that time on, Dunham established

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"Barn Again!" Opens in Bethel



Among those hosting the opening of the Smithsonian "Barn Again!" exhibit on August 19 were Society Curator of Collections Randall Bennett (left) and Danna Nickerson, Office Secretary and Assistant Treasurer (center, front). Also shown are Trudy Hickey (right, front) of the Maine Humanities Council, which sponsored the project in Maine. In back are, left to right, Sarah McCarthy from U. S. Senator Susan Collins' Lewiston office and Diane Jackson from U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe's Auburn office.

(40th Annual Meeting, continued from page 1)

history, hosted meetings of the Pequawket League of Historical Societies, the Molly Ockett DAR chapter, and the Oxford County League of Historical Societies. The Society also offered a course on northern New England and Canada in the fall and one on Maine farming in the spring.

Executive Director Howe presented the 2005 Marjorie MacArthur Noll Volunteer Service Award to Alden and Mabel Kennett for their long service to the Society extending over more than 25 years. Alden Kennett was long on the Society's Research Committee and headed up the militia activities for Indian Raid '81. He also served as vice president, president and trustee of the Society and as longtime member of the Annual Fund, Craft and Investment committees. He has long been active in demonstrating traditional crafts at various special events through the years. Mabel Kennett has also been active on the Research Committee and as a very committed traditional craft demonstrator at Society special events, especially those dealing with quilts.

Life member Dean Walker, chair of the Nominating Committee, representing the general membership, presented the Committee's report for 2005: President, Allen Cressy; Vice President, Susan Herlihy; Secretary and Clerk of the Trustees, Sarah Tucker; Treasurer, Grace McKivergan; Trustees for three years, Walter Hatch and Arlan Jodrey. The other members of the Nominating Committee included Arlene Lowell, also representing the general membership, and Alvin Barth, retiring trustee, representing the Board of Trustees. Without dissent, the report was accepted and the slate was declared elected.

Mr. Cressy thanked the two retiring trustees, Barbara

Lapham and Alvin Barth for their dedication and service to the Society.

Two members of the 2006 Nominating Committee representing the general membership were then elected: Arlene Lowell and Dean Walker.

Other committees reporting were the Gardens and Grounds with Amy Davis and Al Cressy for Long-Range and Strategic Planning.

Mr. Cressy and Executive Director Howe then presented nine certificates to new honorary members, who must be at least 75 years old and have compiled a long record of service to the Society. This is the organization's highest membership honor. Those honored include Adeline Clough (longtime volunteer in the Research Library and faithful recorder of cemetery inscriptions in area graveyards), Walter Hatch (former secretary/clerk of the trustees, trustee, vice president, president, currently vice chair, active on a number of committees and special events); Carolyn Hatch (assisted with many special projects and faithful cleaner of kitchen and bathroom for several years), Richard Carter (longtime guide at the annual farming and logging exhibit during Sudbury Canada Days), Pauline Davis (longtime researcher for programs on local streets and their preparation for publication in *The Courier*), Kenneth Bohr (served on the Board of Trustees as secretary/clerk, longtime chair of the Preservation Committee who has quietly helped the Society in numerous ways), Gwyneth Bohr (assisted with special events through the years and also helped the Society in many ways), Alden Kennett (longtime officer and committee member, active in traditional craft activities), Mabel Kennett (longtime volunteer, particularly active in traditional craft demonstrations, especially in regard to quilts). All these volunteers received enthusiastic applause for their many contributions to the success of the Society.

A long threatening shower came during the last few slides of Mr. Mohney's lecture ending the meeting with a rush for cover.



Special guest "Piglet" arrived in the van of her owner, Richard and Carole Duplessis of Pooh Corner Farm for the official opening of the Smithsonian "Barn Again!" exhibit in Bethel.

ANNUAL FUND

Help keep the Society strong by making a gift to its Annual Fund Campaign. Tax deductible contributions help support its exhibits, special events, publications, and other programming. Gifts in any amount may be made throughout the year to the Society at P.O. Box 12, Bethel, ME 04217-0012.

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

The Bethel Historical Society is committed to building on its reputation as a premier regional history center that will continue to enrich the educational and cultural life of its community for generations to come. Members and friends have generously contributed to the operations of the Society and to the acquisition of the Robinson House. In order to ensure the long-term maintenance and further development of the Center's facilities, programs, and collections, the Society is seeking new forms of support. You, readers of *The Courier*, are asked to consider making a charitable gift to the Society through a bequest in your will, the establishment of a trust, or a number of other financial arrangements and options that are available. These charitable gifts can be structured to support the Society's mission while at the same time assuring the security of your family. For more information, please contact the Society by calling (207) 824-2908 or (800) 824-2910 or by writing to P.O. Box 12, Bethel, ME 04217-0012 or by emailing: info@bethelhistorical.org

(Henry Morgan Dunham continued from page 1)

a lifelong connection with his Alma Mater. After graduation in 1873, he served from 1875 until his death as a member of the faculty. In 1876, he also graduated from the Boston University College of Music. During this time, he began to give organ recitals at various locations in the Boston area. In 1875, the Porter Congregational Church chose him as its organist. Several years later he became the organist at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross and the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Boston. He achieved fame as the organist at the Ruggles Street Baptist Church. In 1896, he assumed a similar post at Boston's Shawmut Congregational Church. A decade later he moved to the Harvard Congregational Church at Brookline.

On 28 June 1887, he married Helen Hammond of New London, CT. They made their home in Brookline, MA.

Dunham's career as an organist ensured that he would become a composer of organ works as well. He also wrote two text books on organ musical techniques.

As a teacher, he was recalled as an outstanding one, invariably patient, a friendly and loveable soul. His students were devoted to him and he was for many years the longest serving teacher at the Conservatory.

During his last years while focusing on music of the organ and orchestra, he composed works that were played in prominent places such as Boston's Symphony Hall. At the New England Conservatory's commencement of 1925, which also marked the fiftieth year of his teaching at this institution, a number of his works were performed by an orchestra conducted by his former student Wallace Goodrich, dean of

President's Column

2005 has been a good year for the Society! Our Annual Meeting focused on Maine Barns and was extremely well attended, even by "Piglet" (see her photo on page 2) who also graced our opening of the barn exhibit in August. In October, we said "good bye" to the Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibition, "Barn Again! Celebrating an American Icon," which has been such a source of interest along with its accompanying activities (barn tour, lectures, Maine humorist, Grange harvest supper, etc.) for so many of our visitors this year.

I wish to congratulate all those honored as new honorary members at the Annual Meeting and express our appreciation once more for their long record of service to the Society. Congratulations are also in order for this year's Noll Volunteer Service Award designees, Alden and Mabel Kennett, who have served us so well for so very long. What an exemplary record of service they have compiled!

Once again, our volunteer corps—over 100 strong—continued their hard work, making possible so many of the programs and activities that bring so much benefit to our community, and make the Society a model for others across the State. Thank you and congratulations to all of you.

Our own Stan Howe was the 2005 recipient of the Henry H. Hastings Award for Citizenship. This prestigious award was presented by the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce to Stan for his "decades of service to the citizens of Bethel, Oxford County and Maine." Congratulations, Stan, for this well-earned recognition.

We must not forget the superb efforts of our staff—Stan Howe, Randy Bennett and Danna Nickerson. With this team in place, the Society has become well-known as a regional history center in Northern New England.

As your new president, I look forward to working with everyone to increase the visibility and profile of the Society as we begin our 40th year of existence in 2006. Anyone interested in joining our dedicated "action team" to help keep good things happening at the Society should give me a call (207) 824-0508 or e-mail me ajcressy@megalink.net or call the Society office (207) 824-2908.

Allen Cressy

the faculty.

Throughout his many summers in western Maine, he often ventured out in his boat and fished. His devotion to the region was so strong that he was always reluctant to leave the Rangeley region for home. When packing, he would recall regretfully that he had to return and "go down into the fight." He died on 4 May 1929 at the age of seventy-five.

Further information on Dunham can be found in his memoirs published after his death. In this book, he wrote, "The whole Rangeley Lakes region is like heaven to me and the time we have spent there is crowded with experiences unique and well worth mention in these chronicles." See Henry M. Dunham, *The Life of a Musician* (New York: Richmond Borough, 1931). The biographical account in Allan Johnson and Dumas Malone, editors, *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1930), Volume 5, page 513 contains important biographical details of his life.

2004 Financial Report



December 6, 2005

To the Board of Trustees
Bethel Historical Society
P.O. Box 12
Bethel, ME 04217

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of Bethel Historical Society, (a nonprofit organization), as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of Bethel Historical Society.

A review consists principally of inquiries of organization personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

AUSTIN ASSOCIATES, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants

Exhibit A

Bethel Historical Society Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2004 and 2003

	2004	2003
Assets		
Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 92,529	\$ 83,844
Certificates of deposit	9,695	7,596
Inventory	35,294	37,026
Investments--Marketable securities	495,015	443,084
Contributions receivable, net	32,968	-
Collections (Note 1)	-	-
Land, buildings and equipment	790,767	790,767
Less--Accumulated depreciation	(401,422)	(380,530)
Cash and investments restricted for long-term purposes	154,573	149,695
Total assets	\$ 1,209,419	\$ 1,131,482
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,676	\$ 2,625
Accrued expenses	336	656
Deferred income	-	9,480
Total liabilities	3,012	12,761
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	922,501	889,091
Temporarily restricted	129,333	79,935
Permanently restricted	154,573	149,695
Total net assets	1,206,407	1,118,721
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,209,419	\$ 1,131,482

Exhibit B

Bethel Historical Society Statements of Activities For The Year Ended December 31, 2004

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Support and Revenue:				
Contributions	\$ 60,291	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,878	\$ 67,169
Grants	-	1,000	-	1,000
Dues	8,633	-	-	8,633
Admissions and sales income	14,898	-	-	14,898
Capital campaign income	-	48,706	-	48,706
Rental income	110	-	-	110
Special event income	97,990	-	-	97,990
Less--Cost of special events	(88,864)	-	-	(88,864)
Investment income	5,957	17,091	-	23,048
Gain on sale of securities	8,901	-	-	8,901
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	28,502	443	-	28,945
Net assets released from restrictions	19,842	(19,842)	-	-
Total support and revenue	156,260	49,398	4,878	210,536
Expenses:				
Program services	108,567	-	-	108,567
Support services	14,283	-	-	14,283
Total expenses	122,850	-	-	122,850
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 33,410	\$ 49,398	\$ 4,878	\$ 87,686

Exhibit B

Bethel Historical Society Statements of Activities For The Year Ended December 31, 2003

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Support and Revenue:				
Contributions	\$ 22,634	\$ -	\$ 32,975	\$ 55,609
Grants	-	400	-	400
Dues	9,268	-	-	9,268
Admissions and sales income	20,556	-	-	20,556
Capital campaign income	-	32,177	-	32,177
Rental income	210	-	-	210
Special event income	74,547	-	-	74,547
Less--Cost of special events	(70,686)	-	-	(70,686)
Investment income	15,804	3,458	-	19,262
Loss on sale of securities	(875)	-	-	(875)
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	21,349	3,215	-	24,564
Net assets released from restrictions	26,583	(26,583)	-	-
Total support and revenue	119,390	12,667	32,975	165,032
Expenses:				
Program services	106,454	-	-	106,454
Support services	12,734	-	-	12,734
Total expenses	119,188	-	-	119,188
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 202	\$ 12,667	\$ 32,975	\$ 45,844

Bethel Historical Society
Statements of Changes in Net Assets
For The Years Ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Permanently Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance, at January 1, 2003, as previously stated	\$ 927,753	\$ 67,268	\$ 116,720	\$ 1,111,741
Prior Period Adjustment	(38,864)	-	-	(38,864)
Balance, at January 1, 2003, as restated	888,889	67,268	116,720	1,072,877
Increase in Net Assets, as restated	202	12,667	32,975	45,844
Balance, at December 31, 2003	889,091	79,935	149,695	1,118,721
Increase in Net Assets	33,410	49,398	4,878	87,686
Balance, at December 31, 2004	<u>\$ 922,501</u>	<u>\$ 129,333</u>	<u>\$ 154,573</u>	<u>\$ 1,206,407</u>

Bethel Historical Society
Statement of Functional Expenses
For The Year Ended December 31, 2004

	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Supporting Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
Advertising	\$ 405	\$ -	\$ 405
Bank charges	-	245	245
Bookkeeping expense	-	448	448
Building maintenance	5,714	635	6,349
Depreciation	18,803	2,089	20,892
Director's expense	-	300	300
Dues	636	71	707
Heat, lights and water	6,249	694	6,943
House tours expense	1,626	-	1,626
Insurance	17,529	1,424	18,953
Janitorial services	1,294	-	1,294
Merchandise for resale	7,950	-	7,950
Miscellaneous	-	2,257	2,257
Office supplies and printing	4,934	548	5,482
Postage	2,600	289	2,889
Professional fees	-	2,650	2,650
Salaries	36,218	2,312	38,530
Taxes	3,282	173	3,455
Telephone	1,327	148	1,475
	<u>\$ 108,567</u>	<u>\$ 14,283</u>	<u>\$ 122,850</u>

Bethel Historical Society
Statement of Functional Expenses
For The Year Ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Supporting Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
Advertising	\$ 535	\$ -	\$ 535
Bank charges	-	245	245
Bookkeeping expense	-	395	395
Building maintenance	2,847	316	3,163
Depreciation	19,197	2,133	21,330
Director's expense	-	300	300
Dues	720	80	800
Heat, lights and water	8,261	918	9,179
Insurance	13,225	1,150	14,375
Janitorial services	1,535	-	1,535
Merchandise for resale	13,237	-	13,237
Miscellaneous	-	1,353	1,353
Office supplies and printing	4,993	555	5,548
Postage	2,949	328	3,277
Professional fees	-	2,450	2,450
Salaries	34,207	2,183	36,390
Taxes	3,416	180	3,596
Telephone	1,332	148	1,480
	<u>\$ 106,454</u>	<u>\$ 12,734</u>	<u>\$ 119,188</u>

Bethel Historical Society
Statements of Cash Flows
For The Years Ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Increase in net assets	\$ 87,686	\$ 45,844
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	20,892	21,330
Securities received as a donation	(24,631)	(1,439)
Contributions restricted for long-term purposes	(4,878)	-
(Gain) Loss on sale of securities	(8,901)	875
Unrealized gain on change in value of marketable securities	(28,945)	(24,564)
(Increase) Decrease in operating assets:		
Inventory	1,732	1,839
Contributions receivable	(32,968)	-
Increase (Decrease) in liabilities:		
Accounts payable	51	336
Accrued expenses	(320)	263
Deferred income	(9,480)	9,480
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>238</u>	<u>53,964</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Capital expenditures	-	(27,420)
Purchase of investments	(183,654)	(347,507)
Proceeds from sale of investments	194,200	126,392
Maturity (purchase) of certificates of deposit with terms greater than three months	(2,099)	49,091
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>8,447</u>	<u>(199,444)</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>8,685</u>	<u>(145,480)</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents, at beginning of year	<u>83,844</u>	<u>229,324</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents, at end of year	<u>\$ 92,529</u>	<u>\$ 83,844</u>

Bethel Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2004 and 2003

NOTE 1: Significant Accounting Policies

Organization's activities:

The Organization is a society which promotes the preservation of the history of Bethel, Maine. The Society's primary revenues are donations, dues, admission fees, retail sales, and fees from special events. Other sources of revenue include grants and earnings on investments.

Basis of presentation:

In 1996, the Organization elected to adopt Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations*. Under SFAS No. 117, the Organization is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: Unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. In addition, the Organization is required to present a statement of cash flows.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Net assets and revenues, expenses, gains, and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the Organization and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Unrestricted net assets--Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

Temporarily restricted net assets--Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may or will be met, either by actions of the Organization and/or the passage of time.

Permanently restricted net assets--Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that they be maintained permanently by the Organization. Generally, the donors of these assets permit the Organization to use all or part of the income earned on any related investments for general or specific purposes.

Expiration of donor-imposed restrictions:

The expiration of a donor-imposed restriction on a contribution or on endowment income is recognized in the period in which the restriction expires and at that time the related resources are reclassified to unrestricted net assets. A restriction expires when the stipulated time has elapsed, when the stipulated purpose for which the resource was restricted has been fulfilled, or both.

Collections:

The Society does not capitalize its collections. The collections consist of artifacts of historical significance and art objects which are held for educational, research, and custodial purposes. The Organization protects, cares for, preserves and keeps its collections unencumbered, subject to a policy that requires proceeds from their sales to be used to acquire other items for collections.

Bethel Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2004 and 2003

NOTE 2: Contributions Receivable

Included in contributions receivable are the following unconditional promises to give:

	2004	2003
Contributions receivable	\$ 60,000	\$ 0
Less: Unamortized discount (rate of 4.37% in 2004)	(27,032)	0
	\$ 32,968	\$ 0

The entire amount is due in 2019 and is considered collectible.

NOTE 3: Land, Building and Equipment

	Years	2004	2003
Land and building	37 - 40	\$ 578,621	\$ 578,621
Improvements	15 - 40	153,661	153,661
Equipment	5 - 10	58,485	58,485
		\$ 790,767	\$ 790,767

NOTE 4: Investments--Marketable Securities

Investments in securities are recorded at their fair values, which are based on quoted market prices for individual debt and marketable securities and published unit values for mutual funds. Purchased securities are recorded at cost as of their trade dates, donated securities are recorded at their market values on the dates received. Gains or losses from the sale of securities are determined by the first-in, first-out method. Investments restricted for long-term purposes totaled \$137,377 and \$132,499 at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

	2004	2003	2004	2003
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
Stocks	\$ 206,512	\$ 283,946	\$ 168,123	\$ 222,554
Mutual funds	133,689	147,889	108,725	112,205
Corporate bonds	70,285	129,570	84,794	85,558
Government bonds	130,000	70,987	150,980	155,266
Total marketable securities	\$ 540,486	\$ 632,392	\$ 512,622	\$ 575,583

Market value exceeds cost by \$91,906 and \$62,961 at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Bethel Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2004 and 2003

NOTE 1: Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Cash:

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, the Organization considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity date of three months or less to be cash or cash equivalents.

Inventories:

Inventories are stated at lower of cost or market value, with cost generally determined on the first-in, first-out method.

Land, building and equipment:

Purchases of property are capitalized at cost. Donations of property and equipment are recorded as support at their estimated fair value. Depreciation is computed on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Minor additions and replacements and routine repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

Contributions:

Contributions, including unconditional promises to give, are recorded as made. All contributions are available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Conditional promises to give are recognized when the conditions on which they depend are substantially met. Unconditional promises to give, due in the next year, are recorded at their net realizable value. Unconditional promises to give, due in subsequent years, are reported at the present value of their net realizable value, using risk-free interest rates applicable to the years in which the promises are to be received.

In-kind contributions:

Contributions of donated non-cash assets are recorded at their fair values in the period received. Contributions of donated services that create or enhance non-financial assets or that require specialized skills, are provided by individuals possessing those skills, and would typically be purchased if not provided by donation, are recorded at their fair values in the period received.

Advertising:

The Organization uses advertising to promote its programs among the public it serves. Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expense was \$405 and \$535 for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Income taxes:

No provision for income taxes has been made due to the Organization's tax exempt status under IRC Section 501(c)(3).

Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Bethel Historical Society
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2004 and 2003

NOTE 5: Temporarily and Permanently Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted and permanently restricted net assets at December 31, 2004 and 2003 were available for the following purposes:

Temporarily restricted net assets are as follows:

	2004	2003
Capital campaign	\$109,854	\$ 69,662
Mollycckett world exhibit	504	1,548
Scholarships	453	342
Austin Twitchell collection/Moses Mason House	14,288	4,678
Miscellaneous preservation programs	1,053	2,812
Special events	3,181	893
	\$129,333	\$ 79,935

Permanently restricted net assets are as follows:

	2004	2003
Collections and preservation of buildings	\$122,378	\$117,500
Special events	20,000	20,000
Plants for buildings and grounds	4,860	4,860
Scholarships	4,275	4,275
Books and genealogical materials	2,560	2,560
Noli award	500	500
	\$154,573	\$149,695

NOTE 6: Release from Restrictions

Program restrictions were satisfied during the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 by incurring expenses for the restricted purposes specified by the donors as follows:

	2004	2003
Capital campaign	\$ 14,075	\$ 26,196
Austin Twitchell collection/Moses Mason House	3,810	-
Mollycckett world exhibit	1,057	-
Special events	900	-
Books and genealogical materials	-	237
Miscellaneous preservation programs	-	150
	\$ 19,842	\$ 26,583

NOTE 7: Fundraising Expenses

Total fundraising expenses were \$8,002 and \$5,925 for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

NOTE 8: Prior Period Adjustment

The accompanying financial statements have been restated for 2003 to correct an error related to the costing of inventory. This error originated in 2000. The effect of the restatement was to decrease the cost of merchandise for resale for the year ended December 31, 2003 by \$1,839. Unrestricted net assets at the beginning of 2003 has been decreased by \$38,864 for effects of the restatement on prior years.

NOTE 9: Reclassifications

Certain amounts reported for 2003 have been reclassified to conform with the 2004 presentation. Such reclassifications had no effect on reported income.

Barn Redux Bethel's Most Modern Barn in 1950

by Donald G. Bennett

(continued from the last issue)

In the summer of 1945, only months after the fire's debris had been removed, my family moved to Bethel from Arlington, MA. We took over our own dairy farm and milk business that my grandfather had operated for twenty-eight years. From here on, I had a chance to watch the "Phoenix Bird barns" rise from the old barn's ashes.

Over the next two or three years, the entire Thurston dairy farm operation was rebuilt. Donald Varney was hired as the new herdsman; his family, like the Felts later, moved into the herdsman's residence across Routes 2/26 from the main house. (This was the building that included a store and J. A. Thurston Company office.) The lost herd of primarily Guernseys and some Holsteins was replaced with new cows temporarily housed in a picturesque (to the non-farmer) but weather-beaten barn located on the north end of the field where the present "Brew Pub" (Moose's Tale Food and Ale) sits today. Later in the 1980s, I discovered that one of my compatriots at the Bethel Inn, Maurice Brooks, had worked for the Thurstons in this rustic establishment that served a vital role during the transition. (The Varneys later bought a dairy farm next to the Blake's on Blake Hill south of Bethel Hill Village. For a number of years, Don Varney sold his milk to Riverside Farms for delivery in Bethel.)

Within the next two years, all the construction was finished. The first thing I knew the cows had been moved from their temporary home near Swan's Corner to their new "palace." (If cows could read and had the new barn catalogs of the times in front of them, they would certainly have picked this one as their first choice.) The floor plan of this new cow "palace" emphasized greater labor saving efficiency for milking and cleaning as well as better lighting and ventilation for the cows.

The new barn was built in the shape of a "T" with the cross of the "T" on the south end. The "T" wings were used for a milk room on the highway side and silos on the river side. The silo wing of the barn connected the silos to the main barn with a covered hallway. At first, two traditional wooden silos were constructed. A year or two later and as part of Paul's experimenting with new farming techniques, one of the wooden silos was torn down and replaced with what became another landmark structure: a big blue International Harvester steel, glass-lined silo. Although it was designed and built to provide push-button unloading, Maine winters

sometimes interfered with the best plans of mice and men. (For silo fans, one can still see copies of the "big blue" silos while driving to Boston on I-95 in Danvers, MA. The Alfalfa Farm there uses its two now faded blue silos as huge sign posts.)

The south main doorway was used to unload grain and sawdust or shavings used for livestock bedding. The north door was used by the cows and to bring in hay from the hay barn. The milk room, located in the end of the T wing facing the road, contained facilities for straining milk and storing forty quart milk cans for cooling and shipping to Rumford. The room had a large refrigerated water tank coolers where the fresh warm raw milk was cooled and awaited shipment to Breau's Dairy in Rumford the next day. The Deval milking machines were washed and stored here as well after each milking. A few years later almost all dairy farms changed their milk holding and cooling facilities to stainless and bulk tanks. (The sanitation concept was to never expose milk to air, pump it through sterilized tubing all the way to the consumer's delivery container, bottle or paper carton. In the 1950s, Paul Thurston's daily trip to his Rumford office included a detour to Breau's Dairy plant with his car trunk loaded with the farm's half dozen forty quart cans of milk.)

In recalling new barn improvements compared to the old barn, Eric Wight first spoke of the watering system with cows sharing stall cups they could activate by pushing the cup valve with their nose. The old barn had no stall cups and cows either drank from a tub or had to be hand watered. Mike Thurston remembers the anti-humping rail; this device was designed to keep the cows that had a dumping urge hit them to drop their waste in the gutter instead of humping their back up and messing the bedding. My first impression of cattle housing was the improved lighting, feelings of broadened space that seemed almost cavernous compared to the older barn, and large windows made a brighter work place. The steel tubing of the stalls gave the whole barn when empty the look of a barn brochure photograph. But the star of the barn's show was its gutter.

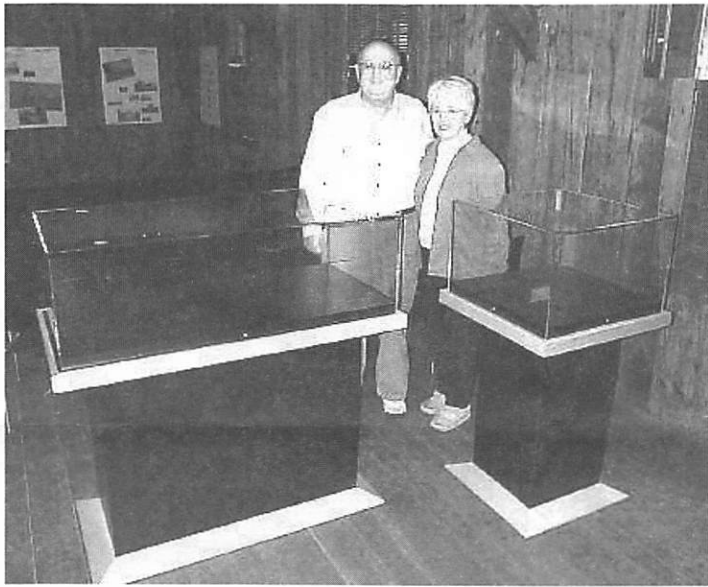
For me, the mechanical gutter cleaner was "IT." (Cow stalls are concrete pads sandwiched between a feeding manger in front of the animal and a waste gutter behind.) Compared to the barn I worked in, a half mile away, this new one was a dream. During the course of twenty-four hours, one cow can produce a heap of manure and wet sawdust bedding. Fifty cows could produce quite a load to dispose of at least twice per day. In my barn work it would have meant filling, wheeling and dumping a dozen or more wheelbarrow loads twice daily to just clean the cow stalls. The barn cleaner in the new barn consisted of a long linked chain with scrapers attached to the moving chain that moved the gutter's contents on its journey to an outside conveyor and thence to the traditional manure pile. Electric motors replaced manpower. The guy who flipped that switch to start the new cleaning system was the Thurston's new herdsman, Linwood "Tink" Felt.

The barn's floor plan was the way to save labor; the new barn was designed so that the cows faced outward; milking and cleaning required fewer steps. One person could easily move milking machines from one cow to the next in line for milking on both sides of the aisle because the milking end of the cow faced the barn's center aisle. (Not many years later in Bethel and at other Maine farms the "milking floor plan" changed again to even more efficient one; cows were trained

to file into milking "parlors" so that cows move instead of people.) But in 1950, the Thurston's new barn was one generation ahead of the older tie-ups where cows faced each other and the milking area consisted of narrow aisles against the barn's outer walls.

Barns were expensive to build and few farmers could afford the luxury of replacing an existing barn for the sake of a new floor plan. Early barns were designed with priority given to hay storage; the barn's center "hallway" had to be large enough to allow a loaded hayrack to be drawn by a team of horses or oxen in one door and out the other end. Having another barn for hay storage meant more attention could be given to just housing, milking and feeding. This also meant that the farmer could build an "industrial strength" dairy barn for the single purpose of housing and milking cows.

(to be continued in the next issue)



Life member Ted Orino, and his wife, Janette, stand beside two exhibit cases recently donated to the Bethel Historical Society in their honor. Summer residents of Rumford and Lower Richardson Lake, they have been generous supporters of the Society's programs and activities for many years.



Re-enactor Ken Hamilton (left) discusses an 18th century flintlock rifle with Society trustee John B. Head at the annual Sudbury Canada Days in August.

Diary of William S. Hastings

(continued from the last issue)



1942 – February 17, Cloudy, rain. Took Mrs. [Bernice] Noyes to Portland. Coming down with a cold, my first this winter. February 18, Clear & cool. Sick at home with cold. Got card that Ruth's father is worse and she went to Greenwood. February 19, Snow. Put up spuds. Sick at night. February 20, Clear & cold. Director's meeting at Paris. 1 hr. for Edwards, 1 hr. for Widd [Twaddle] searching records. February 21, Clear, cold, windy. Moved oats, fertilizer. P.M. at home. February 22, Sick at home. Went to see Widd [Twaddle, M.D.] in p.m. February 23, Clear & cold. Went in woods in a.m. No go, I'm sick. February 24, Clear & warm. Indoors. February 25, Clear, warm. In bed all day. February 26, Clear & windy. Weak as a rag. Worse at night. February 27, Clear & warm. Some better. Saw Swett in p.m. Helped milk. February 28, Cloudy, warm. I'm improving. March 1, Clear and warm. Sawed some furnace wood. Greenwood in p.m. George [Cole (his father-in-law)] is no better. March 2, Cloudy. Didn't go to Town Meeting. Masonic rehearsal in eve. 2 hrs. for Widd on Chris Bean line. March 3, Cloudy. Ruth on Grand Jury duty. March 4, Clear & windy. Put up spuds. Cleaned cellars. Star meeting in eve. Bill Bartlett died, 87 years old. March 5, Clear & warm. Cut grey birch in a.m. Put motor on oat conveyer in p.m. March 6, Clouding & rain. Cut birch. Dumped oats in p.m. Ruth finished Jury. March 7, Clear, windy. Cut birch. Funeral in p.m. March 8, Clear, warm. A weather breeder. Dad Cole passed away. March 9, Rain! A perishin' flood! Took Ruth to Greenwood. I went to Paris & Norway. March 10, Clearing, squally. Worked on oats in a.m. Bethel to file income tax returns in p.m. March 11, Clear & warm. Cut wood in a.m. Dad Cole's funeral in p.m. Masonic rehearsal in eve. March 12, Rain. Put up spuds. M. M. Degree on Drummond in eve. March 13, Clear & warm. 6 hr. for Leslie Davis, Annis place & Hapgood farm. 2 hr. C. W. Hall L 14 R2, Bethel. March 14, Clouding, warm. Put up spuds. March 15, Snow, 2-3". Went to Greenwood. March 16, Cloudy, warm. Hauled wood all day. March 17, Rain. 2 ½ hr. field work in E. Woodstock for Ed Mann. 5 hr. research same job. Lot 33 East lotting. March 18, Cloudy, clearing. 5 hr. research for E. J. Mann on Rumford, 3-4-5, 2nd Div. Bought 106 plans of J. H. Stuart heirs. March 19, Cloudy. Hauled wood in a.m. Round home in p.m. March 20, Cool & windy. Put up spuds in a.m. March 21, Clouding. Hauled wood in a.m. Hauled oats in p.m. March 22, 8" heavy snow. Worked on plans. March 23, Squalls. Ruth went to Orono [Farm & Home Week]. 2 hr. research for E. Mann, 2 hr. of Hall. March 24, Cloudy. Boiled sap in p.m. Went to Bethel with spuds in a.m. March 25, Clearing. Cut wood in a.m. Chimney burned out. Boiled sap. Patsy O'Brien is here visiting Barb. Barb went home with her [classmate] for the night. March 26, Clear & warm. Made a drawing board. Varnished tripods. Bethel after Barbara. Copied maps. March 27, Clear & warm. Cruised lots 10 R5 & 11R6, Bethel. Norway in p.m. Ruth came home from Orono. March 28, Clear & warm. Round home. March 29, Clear, warm. Cruised Chas. Eames woodlot. March 30, Clouding. Cut pulp in "alders" in a.m. Put up spuds in p.m. Defense meeting at Bryant Pond. March 31, Clearing. Rumford with Gene. Home via Bethel & got Bethel Water Co. Map of village. Started a map of the village.

(To be continued in the next issue)

Western Maine Saints: A Newry Family Who Joined the Latter-day Saints in Seeking a Home in the West



by Mary E. Valentine
(continued from the last issue)

In Missouri, the Sessions family bought land, including two block houses, and after settling in their new homes, acquired additional land and plowed about forty acres for spring planting of corn, potatoes and grain. After the arrival of Joseph Smith, work began on a new temple, and Perrigrine left to return to Maine to collect the additional money owed the family for sale of their property. He became ill on the trip and after arriving at his father-in-law's house, spent six or seven weeks recuperating before completing his business and returning to Missouri.

When Perrigrine joined his family in Missouri, 28 November 1838, he found a desperate situation. Some of the Saints had been murdered by Missouri mobs. Instead of protecting the new immigrants, the state government issued an extermination order authorizing the other settlers and state militia to kill any Mormons they found still in the area. Again, the family packed what they could carry with them, abandoned the land and homes they had purchased, and fled north along the Mississippi River in mid-winter. The river was full of ice and difficult to cross, but they finally made it to the other side in Quincy, Illinois, where the townspeople were at first sympathetic and helpful. Joseph Smith had been arrested and imprisoned in Missouri, along with some of the other Mormon leaders, but after five months he and his companions escaped and joined the Saints in Illinois.

Again Joseph Smith looked for a new gathering place for the Saints, and chose a site north of Quincy, within a bend of the river. The land was swampy, infested with malaria-bearing mosquitos, but the Saints bought land there, drained the wet land, and laid out a city which Joseph called Nauvoo. As more and more new converts came from Europe, Canada and the eastern United States, the city was growing to rival Chicago as the largest city in Illinois. During the years they lived in Nauvoo, Patty's youngest daughter, Amanda, died; her husband David was given permission to take a plural wife, Rosilla Cowan, and Perrigrine was sent on another mission to Maine. Traveling "without purse or script," staying with Saints wherever he could, but often without adequate food, the trip took a long time. When he reached Newry, he found the branch there no longer thriving since most of its devoted members had left. Perrigrine visited friends and relatives in Newry, but spent much of his time in

the Rumford-Mexico-Dixfield area, where his missionary efforts seemed to be more appreciated. When Perrigrine arrived back in Nauvoo about a year later, he found he had a second child, a son, but his wife was weak from tuberculosis, and Julie Ann died in January 1845. The next June, Perrigrine married two sisters, Lucina and Mary Call. Although Nauvoo had received a charter from the state, the neighbors were again becoming alarmed by its rapidly increasing population. Joseph Smith and his brother were again arrested and imprisoned, but this time a mob attacked the prison and killed them. Brigham Young was selected as the new leader of the Latter-day Saints, and as mob violence increased, he realized the Saints would have to move again, this time to a place not yet occupied and far enough away for the Saints to feel safe from persecution. After studying maps and sending out an exploratory party, he decided on the valley of the Great Salt Lake as the Saints final destination. On 10 February 1846, Patty assisted with a birth in the morning, another in the afternoon. At this time, she began a diary which she continued writing almost every day during the journey to Utah, and after arrival there in September 1847, she chronicled the record of the Saints as they settled the land in the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

The crossing of Iowa beginning in February 1846 occupied the next three and a half months. When they arrived in Council Bluffs, on the bank of the Missouri River, a representative of the U. S. Army came to ask the Saints to recruit 500 able bodied young men to march to California during the war with Mexico and take possession of that territory for the United States. The general feeling was that the Saints did not owe anything to a federal government that had refused to protect them when they were driven from their homes in Missouri and Illinois, but Brigham Young took the longer view and saw this as an opportunity to prove the Mormon's patriotism and perhaps secure more protection from the government in the future. The loss of 500 young men would mean the Saints would have to spend the next year on the banks of the Missouri before going on to Utah, but the government assured them they would not be attacked while their men were gone. So a settlement was established on the west bank called Winter Quarters, and others settled near Council Bluffs on the east bank. After the discovery of gold in California, some of the Saints chose to remain here to help future travelers on their way.

On 5 June 1847, ten years to the day since leaving their home in Newry, the Sessions left the settlement on the Missouri River and followed Brigham Young's company toward Utah. David and Patty Sessions arrived in the valley of the Great Salt Lake in September.

(to be continued in the next issue)



Member Profile
Dexter and Janet Stowell

Dexter Stowell was born in Andover, ME, the son of H. Kirke and Tressa Agnes Milton Stowell. He attended local schools in Bryant Pond and spent one year at Woodstock High School before transferring to Gould Academy, where he graduated in 1946. He was in the U.S. Army from 1946 to 1947 and later served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. Under the GI Bill, he attended the University of Maine at Orono, receiving a B.A. in Business Administration in 1953. Here he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. He worked in Boston as a bank examiner before moving back to Maine (South Paris) in 1955 to assist his father in operating the family's mill in Bryant Pond. For the next twenty nine years after his father's death in November 1956, he operated Stowell Wood Products. Following the closing of the mill, he became a business consultant until his retirement in 1995. He has been long active in the Bethel community, serving as a trustee of Gould Academy 1961-1980, the Bethel Savings Bank 1969-1981 and the Bethel Library, where he served as president. He also was on the Bethel School Committee prior to the formation of SAD #44, where he also chaired the Board of Directors for several years. For many years, he has been a member of the Congregational Church choir. At the Society, he has long been an active volunteer, serving many years as the chair of its Long Range and Strategic Planning Committee and still remains on that Committee. His hobbies include reading, genealogy, and music.

Jan was born in Beamsville, Ontario, the daughter of Francis and Addie Buck Sutherland. She was educated at local schools and Beamsville High and Vocational School. Upon graduation from the Toronto General Hospital School of Nursing as an R.N., she moved to Boston, where she worked at the Massachusetts General Hospital. While in "Beantown," she met Dexter and in 1954 they were married. Transferring to South Paris in 1955, they moved to Bethel's Clark Street in 1957, where they lived until 1962. That year,



Alden and Mabel Kennett (center) receive the 2005 Marjorie MacArthur Noll Volunteer Service Award from Society Executive Director, Stanley R. Howe (right), at the Annual Meeting while Society Vice-President and Board of Trustee Chair, Allen Cressy, looks on.



2005 Hall Memorial Lecturer Bunny McBride, well-known author and Adjunct Lecturer of Cultural Anthropology at Kansas State University (left), poses with Catherine Newell, former Society president and author of the Society booklet on Molly Ockett. Ms. McBride spoke on Molly Ockett and other Wabanaki healers during Sudbury Canada Days.

they moved to their present home on Paradise Road. For twenty-one years, she worked for Androscoggin Home Care and Hospice as a visiting nurse and coordinator of hospice volunteers. She was a volunteer for the Bethel Health Council for many years and for the Bingham Associates Fund (now Bingham Program) for twenty-three years. A member of the Congregational Church choir for forty-eight years, she also volunteers for the Mahoosuc Land Trust and for hospice and bereavement programs. For a number of years, she has been a recruiter and coordinator of volunteers for the Society for house and barn tours and New Year's Bethel. She also has been a volunteer in the Society's museum shop. Her hobbies include reading, skiing, singing, walking, canoeing, and cooking. Dexter and Jan are the parents of three daughters and grandparents of six grandchildren.

Book Note

A Distant War Comes Home: Maine in the Civil War Era. Edited by Donald W. Beattie, Rodney M. Cole and Charles G. Waugh. (Camden, ME: Down East Books, 1996. Pp. 280. Paper. \$14.95.)

The editors of this highly readable volume about Maine's role in the American Civil War have collected a whole range of essays, articles and excerpts in five categories: "Before the War," "Famous Sons and Daughters," "Battles, Campaigns and Events," "Personal Experiences," and "After the War," which reveal well-known as well as obscure details of that tragic and momentous chapter of U. S. history, which have a Maine connection. For example, more Maine men enlisted relative to its population than any other state in the Union. Maine provided some of the war's most distinguished commanders, including Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain and Oliver Otis Howard. A Norway, Maine man, Sumner H. Needham, who also lived in Bethel at one time, was the war's first casualty. These and a myriad of other bits of information are assembled for easy reference in this very useful volume for those interested in Maine and Civil War history.

SRH

For ordering information, please see page 12.

Editor's Corner

This has been a busy fall with lots of activities centered around the Smithsonian Institution's "Barn Again!" exhibition. Space limitations have not permitted all the photos we wished to publish highlighting these and other activities, so we will try to include more in the next issue. So many of our members and friends live far away from Bethel and I know from conversations, letters, e-mails and phone calls that they like to know all they can about their organization. Photos are often more effective than text in relaying messages about what happens at the Society. With this in mind, it is essential to stress that we make every attempt to keep our web-site up to date with all kinds of information as we strive to inform through this publication to do the same for the official record.

SRH

In Memoriam

Died, 14 September 2005, Charlene Haines, Bethel, Life Member
Died, 7 October 2005, Richard Carter, Bethel, Honorary Member
Died, 22 October 2005, Howard W. Cole, Bethel, Life Member
Died, 11 November 2005, Robert E. Mills, Bethel, Senior Member
Died, 13 November 2005, Daisy LeClair, Green Valley, AZ, Life Member
Died, 17 November 2005, Willard Wight, Newry, Life Member

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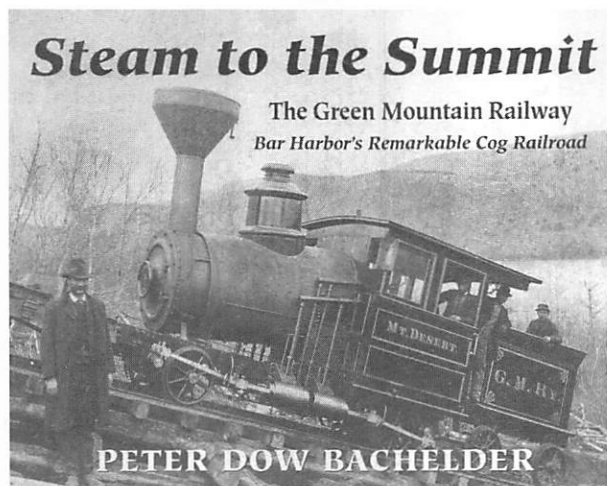
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